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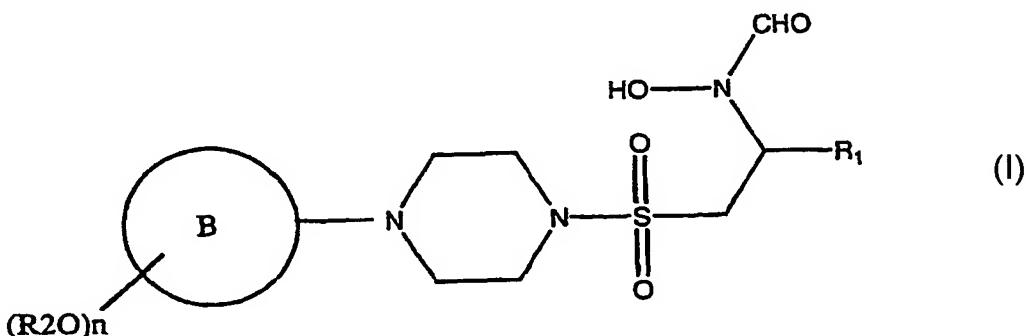
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(54) Title: N-{4-SUBSTITUTED PIPERAZINE-1-SULFONYLMETHYLALKYL}-N-HYDROXYFOMAMIDE COMPOUNDS AS METALLOPROTEINASE INHIBITORS

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(57) Abstract: The invention provides compounds of formula (I): or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof, wherein ring B represents a monocyclic aryl ring having six ring atoms or a monocyclic heteroaryl ring having up to six ring atoms and containing one or more ring heteroatoms wherein each said heteroatom is nitrogen; R2 represents a group selected from C1-6 alkyl or aryl, which said group is substituted by one or more fluorine groups; n is 1, 2 or 3; and R1 represents an optionally substituted group selected from C1-6 alkyl, C5-7 cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C1-6 alkyl-aryl, C1-6 alkyl-heteroaryl, C1-6 alkyl-cycloalkyl or C1-6alkyl-heterocycloalkyl. Processes for their preparation; pharmaceutical compositions containing them; and their use in the treatment of a disease condition mediated by one or more metalloproteinase enzymes.